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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group art unit: 3681  
Examiner: Ha Dinh Ho

In Re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Applicant(s): Hideaki GOUDA et al.

Serial No.: 10/566,442

Filing date: January 31, 2006

For: HYBRID VEHICLE AND METHOD OF  
CONTROLLING THE VEHICLE

Atty. ref.: GOT 228NP

**INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT AND  
CERTIFICATION**

August 10, 2007

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Examiner Ho:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted in compliance with the timing requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), i.e. prior to a first Office Action on the merits.

Listed for consideration on the attached form PTO-1449 are three U.S. patents, which were cited in the attached European Search Report, dated June 6, 2007, which was issued in connection with the corresponding European application. Any relevance of these U.S. patents is self-evident.

It is hereby certified that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before a first Office Action on the merits, no fee is required, and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 are deemed to be fully met as to all listed documents. Consideration of the listed documents is respectfully requested.

Should any fee be required, however, the Director is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and is requested to advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

August 10, 2007  
Date

Robert H. Berdo, Jr. – Reg. No. 38, 075  
RABIN & BERDO, PC – Customer No. 23995  
Telephone: (202) 371-8976  
Fax: (202) 408-0924

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|--|----|-----------------|------------|--|------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| <b>FORM PTO-1449</b><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  |    |                 |            | Attorney reference:                              |                  | Application serial No.: |             |
|  |    |                 |            | <b>GOT 228NP</b>                                 |                  | <b>10/566,442</b>       |             |
|  |    |                 |            | Applicant(s):<br><br><b>Hideaki GOUDA et al.</b> |                  |                         |             |
|  |    |                 |            | Filing date:                                     |                  | Group art unit:         |             |
|  |    |                 |            | <b>January 31, 2006</b>                          |                  | <b>3681</b>             |             |
| <b>US PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>   |    |                 |            |  |                  |                         |             |
| Examiner Initial   |    | Document Number | Date       | Name   | Class            | Sub-Class               | Filing Date |
|  | AA | US-6,526,931 B1 | 03/04/2003 | Vilou  |                  |                         |             |
|  | AB | US-6,492,741 B1 | 12/10/2002 | Morimoto et al.                                  |                  |                         |             |
|  | AC | US-6,532,926 B1 | 03/18/2003 | Kuroda et al.                                    |                  |                         |             |
| Examiner:  |    |                 |            |  | Date Considered: |                         |             |
| EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant. |    |                 |            |  |                  |                         |             |